

GETTING INVOLVED...

Each year, hundreds of events and thousands of volunteers work to improve public lands, but they are not considered Take Pride in America® events or volunteers simply because they are not registered with the program. Turning your next volunteer event into a Take Pride in America event or becoming a Take Pride volunteer is easy.

EVENT GUIDELINES

Just follow these six simple guidelines, and be sure to register your event on our Web site. Events meeting our criteria will automatically be placed on our online calendar and appropriate state volunteer Web page.

All Take Pride in America events must:

1. Be publicized as a Take Pride in America event;
2. Feature prominent use of the Take Pride in America logo and/or banner;
3. Follow all appropriate laws and regulations, including, as necessary, obtaining permits and forms, meeting safety requirements, and securing volunteer agreements and parental approval;
4. Take place on public lands or private lands with the owner's consent and as long as there is a great public benefit;
5. Reflect a positive message of cooperation among Federal, state and local governments, private enterprises, and/or civic organizations; and
6. Be an "on the ground" project rather than an advocacy event.



Children got involved by planting flowers during a school beautification project in conjunction with the dedication of Stockton, California as a Take Pride in America City.

EVENT IDEAS

There are hundreds of possibilities for Take Pride in America events, with something sure to appeal to all ages and interests.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Rehabilitating or creating natural habitats
- Constructing or maintaining trails, campsites or playgrounds
- Clean-ups, including removing trash or debris from shore lines, riparian edges, road sides, parks, schoolyards, etc.
- Refurbishing, repairing or improving historical or cultural sites by painting, mending fences, improving access, etc.
- Planting and maintaining gardens or trees
- "Hike a Mile, Mend a Mile" type activities
- Ceremonies celebrating the commencement or successful completion of a volunteer project



Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner, John Keys, dug in for some hard work with volunteers on National Public Lands Day 2004.

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TAKE PRIDE VOLUNTEERS

Being a Take Pride in America volunteer is fun. Here are the two ways to become a Take Pride volunteer:

1. Participate in a Take Pride in America event. You are automatically considered a Take Pride volunteer for that event, and any subsequent Take Pride events in which you participate.
2. Visit our Partner's Web site at www.TakePride.info and log your volunteer hours to become a "Friend of Take Pride." By keeping track of your volunteer hours you are eligible to receive individual recognition for your volunteer efforts from Take Pride and its partners.

VOLUNTEERING IDEAS

Opportunities to volunteer on public lands are available throughout the country. Here are some ideas to get you started.

- Staff a visitor center or visitor center bookstore
- Research
- Construct, maintain or clean up trails
- Photograph public land events
- Write a newsletter for a local park or historical site
- Monitor bird and wildlife habitats
- Participate in re-enactments and historical dramas
- Plant or maintain gardens or trees
- Be a trail guide
- Become a volunteer coordinator
- Produce signs for public lands near you
- Participate in wildlife habitat restoration
- Receptionist at a public land site
- Promote public land stewardship in local service organizations

More ideas can be found at www.volunteer.gov/gov



Why Become a Friend of Take Pride?

By registering as a Friend of Take Pride on our Partner's Web site you are eligible to receive:

- A record of service hours
- Email invitations to local volunteer opportunities
- Free newsletter
- Free gift when registering
- Special offers from Take Pride sponsors

Visit www.TakePride.info to register